Boston Sept 2d 3d 1866

Mr Wm Lloyd Garrison

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Sir — Received your letter from Roxbury of April 24th. Shame delayed answering as I saw by the papers shortly after that your friends had proposed to take action to create a fund for your future benefit for services rendered by you to the cause of Freedom for the colored race - and as my friends had advised that I should be in some way compensated for my exertions in saving your life and consequent labors for the cause which has become triumphant they had no doubt you would cheerfully unite to lend me your assistance sofar as my exertions in your behalf merited and were appreciated by you - but seeing that you were moving in same direction, I thought it advisable ~~not~~ (then) not to further press my claims upon your consideration for co operation until it might be more agreeable to you.

You entirely misunderstood my motives in my letter to you - I was not begging your pecuniary aid - but a simple acknowledgment of the services rendered you in your rescue & the appeal to my friends appeal to the party who propos-

gratitude to those who have rendered them valuable
aid in times of peril - and in the day of small
things - and who dam gratified to see have
so nobly come forward to reward you in your
advancing age - under the circumstances the least
you could do, was to acknowledge my services
and I had a right to ask that much of you
not in the way of begging favor - but as an act of
gratitude never to be forgotten upon all proper
occasions rather than to be terminated by a
simple I thank you!. It was not to be supposed
that you would in the expedience of your rescue
know just who and how you was aided. If you
were aided, the least you could acknowledge - is
the notice, as honorable to you - by a citizen
who was passing near on business when the
occurance happened. I was then with my Father
he was in the trucking business, and wealthy
- subsequently he lost his property. It was not
then my disposition to beg or claim honors, or reward
I asked favors from no one. I done what I thought
my duty towards a man I thought was nobly
cowardly and cruelly beset. when it requires
moral courage as well as fearlessness and

strength of body and will to aid you.
that I evinced all these eye witnesses will
tell you and have informed you - and In
all fairness I ask you acknowledgement of the
same in frankness. and manliness, and I doubt
not upon this explanation you will cheerfully
give it - and which I have propose to leave in
the hands of my friends for such action as may
be agreeable to them If they see fit to further
their appreciation of my services. It seemed to
me proper that I should first inform you and
that you might have the opportunity, to cordially
endorse the statement of facts presented.

On the next day after the occurance
Mayor Theodore Lyman met me on State St
and shook me by the hand saying. I thank
you for what you done yesterday, you saved
the City from a disgraceful riot. and did
not know what he should have done if you
and your friends had not rescued Mr Garrison.

I had hold of one side of you and my
friend Thomas D. Foster (whom I called upon) the
other and we stood by you and put you in
the carriage - A few days after the rescue - Mr

Chapman and other Ladies called at my Fathers house to express their gratitude to me for my action.

If when my wife was sick and I pressed down with immediate necessities, I was so inconsiderate as to ask a loan of a trifle from you - I beg that the occasion will excuse the action. If I was not in necessitous circumstances - your allusion to it would make it my duty as well as pleasure to return you a check for the same.

If action in the matter of my friends who proposed the paper to prevent me a homestead may not be advisable at this time while your friends are taking action in your behalf. I am disposed to defer it, and think I am entitled to your cooperation and which I presume you will cheerfully render.

My Brother Barnard - served over four years in the War re inlisting - 11th Mass'a also two nephews one who served over four years and both disabled - my Brother lately deceased and it devolves upon me to meet the expenses of his burial. I am past the age for active labor or support.

Respectfully Yours.

Aaron Cooley

Mem. Cooley was a man of profligate character, who made no sign or claim for his help in rescuing W.L.G. from the hands of the mob until 25 years later, when he strove to make capital out of it & "bleed" Mr. G. & his friends.